

**CONFIDENTIAL**

OCI No. 1563/63

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
6 June 1963**

**CURRENT INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT: Italian Events in June**

**1. Calendar**

- June - (indefinite) Negotiations to form post-election Italian government. Delayed by Pope's death. Embassy does not expect presentation of a new government for parliamentary confidence vote before end of June.
- 4-16 June - Mourning period. (Sunday, June 9 and Feast of Corpus Christi 13 June not counted in 9-day official reckoning)
- 5 June - Daily general congregation of all cardinals present to handle Church affairs (until conclave begins for election of new Pope).
- 9 June - Sicilian regional elections.
- mid June - mid July--Election by provincial Socialist federations of delegates to the Nenni Socialists' July congress.
- 17 June - Official funeral service for Pope with attendance by representatives from foreign countries.

MORI/CDF

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Declassified  
18 Jan 1980  
by 032931*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

19 June - Conclave of cardinals to elect new pope convenes at 1800 hours.

20 June - Voting for new pope begins: 2/3 of the vote needed for election of pope; four ballots per day are permitted, 2 in morning, 2 in afternoon.

**2. Papal Considerations**

Voting for the new pope may be prolonged beyond the four-to-six-day period which has been the average in recent instances. The Italians no longer have a majority in the College of Cardinals, and there is a greater possibility than in the past that a non-Italian might be elected. It seems likely, however, that the nationality question will be less important than other concerns at issue between the "progressive" and the "conservative" wings of the college. Cardinals Montini, Lercaro, Urbani and Dell'Acqua of Italy, Suenens of Belgium, Koenig of Austria, Frings of Germany, and Leger of Canada, presumably would prefer a "liberal" pope. Other Italians such as Siri, Ruffini and Ottaviani are popularly associated with moderates like Tisserant of France and the Armenian Agagianian and presumably would prefer a "conservative" pope. Cardinals Gonfalonieri and Agagianian--aged 69 and 67, respectively--have been mentioned in public speculation as possible compromise candidates. Most of the cardinals are said to have expressed the hope that the Ecumenical Council will be resumed on 8 September as previously scheduled, rather than abandoned. It appears, however, that some favor resumption of the Council in order to modify some of the innovations already put forward.

**3. Political Considerations**

Premier-designate Moro's negotiations to form a new center-left coalition government supported by the Nenni Socialists are still only in the early stages. Christian Democrats and Socialists are working to iron out their differences over resumption of the Fanfani government's program, but hardened party

**CONFIDENTIAL**

positions on controversial aspects are making the talks difficult. Efforts at rapprochement by all four coalition parties have been further complicated by the need to plot campaign strategy for the Sicilian regional elections of 9 June. Furthermore, the Nenni Socialists are preparing for a battle between Nenni's rightwing following and the party's minority leftwing in the Socialist provincial federation elections to choose delegates for the party's 18-21 July congress. The death of Pope John has interrupted negotiations over a new cabinet, and it seems unlikely that Moro would be ready to seek a parliamentary vote of confidence before the end of June even if he should succeed in forming a government before then.

**CONFIDENTIAL**